

REGULAR MEETING-MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
September 10, 2007

Mayor Elizabeth Paterson called the regular meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Audrey P. Beck Building.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Blair, Clouette, Haddad, Hawkins, Paterson, Paulhus
Absent: Duffy, Koehn, Schaefer

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to approve the minutes of the regular meeting and the special meeting both held on August 27, 2007.
Motion passed with Ms. Blair abstaining.

III. MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Paterson requested a moment of silence in honor of and respect for our troops around the world.

IV. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Beverly Sims, 61 Northwood Road, described the current situation on Northwood Road. Part of the road is owned and maintained by UConn and part by the Town. The UConn section is used as a parking lot/ community area by the residents of Northwood Apartments. Ms. Sims noted that since she began her petition drive to urge denial of a zone change to allow Ponde Place she has received dozens of e-mails, letters and phone calls from residents who are concerned about concentrating another 600 students on that road.

Joyce Crepeau, 244 South Eagleville Road and President of the Goodwin PTO, addressed the Council on the need to replace the playscape, which was recently partially removed for safety reasons. She requested, since the PTO had no warning and has not had an opportunity to fundraise or apply for grants, that the Town subsidize the purchase of new equipment. The Town Manager will discuss the issue with the Superintendent of Schools.

Charles Eaton, 89 Lorraine Dive, asked the Council how the limit of four unrelated residents in a residence is enforced. He also requested an update on the cross walk on Route 195 near Hanks Hill Road. The Town Manager stated that the Town's requests were denied by the DOT but that he is hopeful that when Storrs Road is redesigned as part of the Storrs Center Project the issues can be addressed. Mr. Eaton thanked the Town for the changes to the cross walks on South Eagleville Road. Mr. Eaton commented on the analysis of the Recreation Fund and the Community Center. While he basically is in agreement with the analysis he asked that staff reexamine the community share of the cost as he feels that even with the CNR input the members are subsidizing the community use. Mr. Eaton offered to assist the Town with the analysis and expressed his willingness to assist with the establishment of a foundation.

Betty Wassmundt, Old Turnpike Road, expressed her support for a democratic board to oversee the Community Center. She also commented that the fees, as proposed, may be too high and might lead to a decrease in membership. Instead she asked that the Council consider programs that would reward members who bring in additional members. Ms. Wassmundt has also heard complaints that admissions at the Center are not regulated. She requested that staff translate all the costs of the Center minus the income into a mill rate so that citizens would know how much the Center is costing each taxpayer.

Sharry Goldman, 97 Browns Road, commented that since the initial phase of the Community Center citizens have expressed their wish to have community uses in the Community Center. She feels that if the community wants these benefits they will have to pay for them. She also suggested that the current Parks Advisory Committee and the Recreation Advisory Committee could serve as an oversight or advisory committee to the Center.

- V. OLD BUSINESS

1. Community/ Campus Relations

Matt Hart, Town Manager, reported that the last two weekends at Carriage House have been better. Aspen Management has taken a number of steps that seem to be working. These include the installation of a temporary fence which funnels the crowds through a manageable area, the hiring of additional security, having onsite management there on weekends and evenings, enforcing the three strikes and you are out policy, the amending of the lease to limit the number of residents and the issuance of Carriage House ID's. The Manager complimented Aspen Management for their efforts. There is a concern that squelching the activity at Carriage House may increase smaller parties in other parts of Town.

Mr. Hart reported that a Town ticket for a variety of infractions has been developed and a number of staff members will be sworn in as special constables. The Town will need to develop an appeals process but the revenue from these tickets will stay in Town.

2. Community Water and Wastewater Issues

- Town Manager, Matt Hart, reported that the Town has decided, partly because of the current drought, to move forward with the installation of water saving infrastructure in Town owned buildings. Mr. Clouette relayed a suggestion from a citizen that signs be placed in Town buildings which announce that water conservation measures are in place. The Town Manager commented that signs are in place in the Community Center and can be put in other areas of water use.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

3. Proclamation in Recognition of Mansfield Middle School

M. Haddad moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded, effective September 10, 2007, to authorize the Mayor to issue the attached Proclamation Recognizing Mansfield

Middle School.
Motion passed by all.

This proclamation will be presented by the Mayor at an upcoming school assembly. Council members will be apprised of the time and date of the assembly.

4. Regional Sewer Authority

Mr. Clouette moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded, effective September 10, 2007, to schedule a Special Town Council Meeting on September 25, 2007 at 7:00 PM in the Windham Town Hall to discuss the establishment of a regional sewer authority.
Motion passed unanimously.

5. Town Acceptance of Windswept Lane

Mr. Haddad moved and Ms. Blair seconded, effective September 10, 2007, to authorize Town Manager Matthew W. Hart, subject to the conditions cited below, to accept Windswept Lane as a Town road. Town acceptance shall be subject to the following conditions:

1. Developer installation of two intersection warning signs on East Road and a no outlet sign on Windswept Lane; and
2. Execution by the Planning and Zoning Commission Chairman, Mansfield Controller, and the developer of a one-year maintenance Bond agreement that addresses all regulatory requirements and Approval conditions.

Motion passed unanimously.

6. Rural Minor Collector Grant (WINCOG Region) Gurleyville Bridge Railing Upgrade.

Ms. Blair moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded, to schedule a Public Information Session regarding the Gurleyville Bridge Railing Upgrade, for the September 24, 2007 Regular Meeting of the Mansfield Town Council.
Motion passed unanimously.

7. Mansfield Community Center Membership and Policy

Ms. Blair moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded, to approve the amendments to the fee schedule and fee charging policy for the Mansfield Department of Parks and Recreation as presented by staff in its draft dated August 16, 2007, which amendments to said fee schedule shall be effective October 1, 2007.

Noting how difficult it is to make comparisons with for profit health clubs, Council members discussed whether the increase in membership would, in fact, lower the number of members. The Town Manager stated that both cost reductions and increase revenues will be necessary to maintain a sustainable Recreation Fund.

Mayor Paterson suggested that the Finance Committee review all the

suggestions and conduct a thorough review of support for the Community Center. She also requested that the Town Council continue to conduct special meetings throughout the year so that by the next budget cycle the Council will have a clear economic and philosophical picture of the situation.
Motion passed unanimously.

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VII. QUARTERLY REPORTS

- Distributed

VIII. DEPARTMENTAL AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

- IX. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

- Mr. Clouette, Chair of the Committee on Committees, presented the following recommendations to the Council for approval:

Historic District Commission	Gayle Bruhn
	David Spencer
Cemetery Committee	Isabelle Atwood
	Ethel Larkin
	Mary Landeck

Motion as presented was passed unanimously.

Mr. Clouette also noted that the Committee had a table at the Know Your Town Fair.

X. REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

- Mayor Paterson reminded members about the fireworks, the Festival on the Green and the Historical Society Annual Dinner which are all happening this weekend. The Mayor and the Town Manager will be attending the Chamber of Commerce breakfast with Joe Courtney later this week.

XI. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

- Attached

- XII. FUTURE AGENDAS

- Mr. Clouette suggested that an ad hoc committee on housing issues be established. This committee would examine all aspects of housing in the Town, clarify the issues and start a public dialogue. Mr. Haddad asked that the demographic makeup of the occupants of the Holinko Estates be included in the conversation. The Town Manager will design a tentative list of issues for discussion and determine how the committee would be constituted.

Ms. Blair asked that the Council members be introduced to the new state troopers when it is convenient for them.

XIII. PETITIONS, REQUEST AND COMMUNICATIONS

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8. Advance "Iowa Provost Appointed New UConn President – August 27, 2007
9. CCM re: 25th Annual CCM Convention and Exposition
10. CCM re: List of Municipalities Exempt From Affordable Housing Appeals
Procedure – Mr. Haddad requested that staff research why the Town is on the list of those exempt from affordable housing.
11. Family Fun in Mansfield
12. Mansfield Community Center re: Annual Maintenance Week
13. Perspectives – Fall 2007
14. Sister Cities Association of Mansfield, Ohio re: Gala Celebration
15. State of Connecticut Office of Policy and Management re: 2008-2009 Bonding Bill
16. UConn 2000: Rebuilding, Renewing and Enhancing the University of Connecticut

Mr. Paulhus moved and Ms. Blair seconded to move into Executive Session.
Motion passed unanimously.

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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Legal Issues

Included: Matthew W. Hart, Town Manager and Jeffrey Smith, Director of Finance
Personnel Issues

Included: Matthew W. Hart, Town Manager

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Paulhus moved and Ms. Blair seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 p.m.
Motion passed unanimously.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk